(b) whether Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco exports is likely to go up during 1996-97;

(c) if so, the estimated quantity of the above variety to be grown and exported during 1996-97;

(d) whether the Government propose to cover more area under Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco in Karnataka to boost exports;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken to provide remunerative prices to the tobacco growers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) FCV Tobacco crop size authorised for production by the Tobacco Board during 1996-97 crop season is 112.84 million kgs. The export projections of FCV Tobacco for the year 1996-97 is 54,500 MTs (packed weight).

(d) & (e). Keeping in view the increased demand for FCV tobacco in the international markets, the authorised crop size for FCV tobacco in Karnataka has been increased from 25.24 million kgs. in 1995-96 to 29.50 million kgs. in 1996-97 which will entail an increase in area.

(f) Steps taken to provide remunerative prices to the growers *inter-alia,* include :

(i) fixing of the FCV tobacco crop size so as to match the domestic and export demand with supply,

(ii) Operating auction platforms to ensure a process of competitive bidding,

(iii) declaring minimum support price (MSP),

(iv) negotiating with the trade for announcement of minimum guaranteed price by the trade which is normally higher than MSP,

(v) implementing development/extension schemes for improvement of quality and yield of tobacco, and

(vi) promoting Indian tobacco in overseas markets.

Financial Irregularities in Oriental Bank of Commerce

5776. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether CBI investigation has revealed financial irregularities to the tune of Rs. 30 crores at Oriental Bank of Commerce;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and whether the Reserve Bank of India has also investigated into some major branches of the nationalised banks in Mumbai;

(c) if so, whether there has been a large scale irregularities found in nationalised banks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the step being taken to check recurrence of such irregularities ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has reported that a case relating to financial irregularities to the tune of Rs. 15 crores at some Mumbai branches of Oriental Bank of Commerce has been registered in January, 1996 and the case has not yet been finalised. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has also reported that inspection/special scrutiny was conducted in Regional Office and four branches of Oriental Bank of Commerce in Mumbai. Information readily available relating to number of frauds and amount involved in public sector banks during 1994-95 is given below :

	Total No. of frauds	Amounts involved (Rs. in crores)
1994	2266	200.07
1995	1890	115.51

The public sector banks at the instance of Government and RBI have taken several steps from time to time for checking corruption and prevention fo frauds. These steps include issue of comprehensive guidelines by RBI to strengthen the control mechanism in banks, review of fraud cases on a continuous basis by RBI, advising the banks of *modus-operandi* in ingenious cases alongwith required safeguards to prevent their recurrence, proper training of operational personnel and investigations and scrutiny into reported cases of major frauds as well as snap inspections covering systems and procedures and control arrangements in fraud prone areas by the Department of Supervision in RBI.

[Translation]

Package for Textile Processing Sector

5777. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased ot state :

(a) the details of the progress made on the package to encourage investment including foreign investment including foreign investment through joint ventures in Textile Processing Sector;

(b) the programmes likely to be chalked out through this package;

(c) the amount of expenditure (including foreign exchange) likely to be incurred on this package; and

(d) the details of the time bound programme of the package ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (d). No specific package to encourage investment including foreign investment through joint ventures in textile